



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **USAID assists the municipalities of Prilep and Demir Hisar to renovate school buildings**

The American people, through the USAID Primary Education Project are investing \$3 million in school renovations across Macedonia. Primary schools "Blaze Koneski" in Prilep and "Goce Delcev" in Demir Hisar are two of the recipients of this assistance. On October 1st, the Mayor of Prilep, Marjan Risteski; the Mayor of Demir Hisar, Toni Angelevski; USAID DOC Specialist, Biljana Velickovska; USAID PEP Chief of Party, Keith Prenton; and the school Principals, Marija Dulevska and Goran Kostovski joined teachers and students to celebrate the successful completion of the renovation activities.

"This is one of 77 renovated schools since the project began" said USAID DOC Specialist Biljana Velickovska. We plan to renovate over 120 schools by the end of 2011 and I hope they will all be as cooperative as this school.

The renovation component of the Primary Education Project supports the creation of better learning environments and decentralization of the responsibility for school facilities to municipal governments. The project also works to increase access to and use of information technology and to improve the quality of math and science education in Macedonian primary schools.

The Primary Education Project, implemented by the Academy for Educational Development (AED), works with all public primary schools in Macedonia. The project seeks to improve the quality of instruction and increase students' employment skills. The overall goal of the USAID Education Program is to strengthen education in Macedonia and to support decentralization efforts as Macedonia seeks entrance to the European Union.

#### **NOTE TO EDITORS:**

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.